



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**Saturday, August 30, 2025**  
**12th Week After Pentecost**

\*Indicates please stand as you are able

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

*"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

Setting by Joel Raney  
©2007 Hope Pub CCLI #5004261

**GATHER**

**\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS\***

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

P: O Lord,

C: You invite us to ask for Living Water, water that satisfies our thirst. You are that Living Water poured out for us. We confess that we seek to quench our thirst in other ways.

We drink deeply, choosing these sweet waters that turn to fear in our bellies. We confess that rather than turning to you, we set out to be brave.

Seeing the fear outside ourselves, we try to force out fear by casting out others. Lord help us to drink deeply of your love remembering it is perfect love that casts out fear.

Strengthen us to practice love to ourselves, those close to us, and those we overlook. Fill us with Living Water until it overflows. Amen.

**\*GATHERING SONG\***

*"Gather Us In"*

**ELW #532**  
Marty Haugen  
©1982 GIA Pub OL#00031

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,  
we are the old who yearn for your face;  
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away—  
here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever,  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY\***

**O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

**KID'S SERMON**

**READING**

**JEREMIAH 2:4-13**

L: A reading from Jeremiah 2

<sup>4</sup> Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves? <sup>6</sup> They did not say, "Where is the LORD, who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a

land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"  
<sup>7</sup> I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination. <sup>8</sup> The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit. <sup>9</sup> Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children. <sup>10</sup> Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look; send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. <sup>11</sup> Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. <sup>12</sup> Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked; be utterly desolate, says the LORD, <sup>13</sup> for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL READING

**LUKE 14:1, 7-14**

L: The Gospel according to Luke chapter 14

<sup>1</sup> On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. <sup>7</sup> When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup> "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, <sup>9</sup> and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup> For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." <sup>12</sup> He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup> And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to Christ.**

## SERMON

**Vicki Volbrecht**

1. Build a longer table, not a higher wall,  
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.  
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,  
Christ breaks walls to pieces; false divisions end.
2. Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;  
where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.  
For any place where justice is denied,  
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.
3. Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.  
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.  
When we embrace compassion more than fear,  
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.
4. When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,  
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.  
So must our tables welcome those who roam.  
None can be excluded; all must find a home.

**\*CREED\***

**We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,  
born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree.**

**A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.**

**He descended into the earth to the place of death.**

**On the third day he rose from the tomb.**

**He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,  
and His kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,  
life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
source of resurrection and of eternal life.**

**Amen**

*A Celtic Creed from the Iona Community*

**\*PRAYERS\***

**P:** Hear us, O God,

**C:** **Your mercy is great**

**\*PEACE\***

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**MISSION MOMENT**

*If you have a monetary offering, please place in the plate as you leave worship today,  
or use this code to give electronically.*



**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER\***

**P:** Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.  
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for  
the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C:** **Amen.**

**MEAL**

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING\***

**P:** God, lover of the unlovable, we give you thanks. In the fullness of time, Christ our liberator, redeemer, and sustainer came to live and be with the least of us. He lived as a child in a society where children were not recognized. He grew up and touched the untouchable, confronting the powerful. The lonely, the sick, the disabled, the widows, the orphans: these were never far from him. We give you thanks that in the same way all are invited to this table, regardless of their background, to receive your healing. Those whom society deems unworthy, those without daily bread, those exploited without heed for their humanity, and those on the very edge, the periphery, of our society.

### **\*WORDS OF PROMISE\***

- P: One night, in an occupied land, you took bread, blessed it, broke it, and offered to your friends, saying,
- C: Take. Eat. This is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**
- P: That night too, in an occupied land, you took wine, blessed it, and offered it to your friends saying,
- C: This is my blood, poured out for you. A new promise between God and humanity. Do this whenever you drink it in remembrance of me.**
- P: Pour out your Holy Spirit now, we pray that these complicated and compromised gifts of bread and wine may become for us pure and simple gifts of your grace.

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER\***

ELW pg. 112

**Creator God, in heaven, holy be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION\***

### **COMMUNION**

### **\*COMMUNION BLESSING\***

- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
- C: Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION\***

**As we have been embraced by Christ at this table, we now turn to embrace the world; our friends and neighbors, strangers and enemies. AMEN.**

### **SENDING**

### **\*BLESSING\***

- P: Go in peace, be of good cheer. May Mother Earth smile at you, may the Almighty Creator bless you with a spirit of *Ubuntu*.
- C: Amen.**

(*Ubuntu* is a South African word describing  
our interconnectedness to one another and all living things.)

**\*SENDING SONG\***

*"Bring Forth the Kingdom"*

Marty Haugen  
©1986, GIA Pub OL#00026

1. You are salt for the earth,  
O people, salt for the kingdom of God!  
Share the flavor of life,  
O people: life in the kingdom of God!

(Refrain)

Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,  
bring forth the kingdom of peace.  
Bring forth the kingdom of justice,  
bring forth the city of God!

2. You are a light on the hill, O people,  
light for the city of God!  
Shine so holy and bright,  
O people: shine for the kingdom of God! (Refrain)

3. You are a seed of the Word,  
O people, bring forth the kingdom of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,  
grow in the kingdom of God! (Refrain)

4. We are a bless'd and a pilgrim people,  
bound for the kingdom of God!  
Love our journey and love our homeland:  
love is the kingdom of God! (Refrain)

**\*SENDING\***

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

**\*POSTLUDE \***

*"Build a Longer Table"*  
(reprised)

David Bjorlin  
French carol  
©2018 GIA Pub OL#11922  
Arr. Clinton Ellerbe

To watch a recorded service, go to <https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranFC>  
Or visit our website and click on "To view recorded services click HERE!"

# Prayer List

## Members

Jean Purath  
Kathy Gauger  
Dale Gorsky  
Sara Mullarkey  
Steve Cobb  
Patty Telleen  
Shirley Garvin  
Cooper Hopkins  
Mary Ann Armstrong  
Madyson Hopkins

## Friends & Family

Susan McColl, friend of Vicki & Jim Volbrecht  
David Horton, brother of Sara Mullarkey  
Jim Belak, son-in-law of Barbara Baggs  
David Tomaschow, brother-in-law of Amy Jo Martinson  
Barbara Pardo, mother of Cheryl Dolan  
Jennifer & Dale Barnett, friends of Marilyn Morrissey  
Jan Johannes, sister of Jo Anne Gearhart  
Susie Kragmeier, daughter of Kate Stieben  
Carlos Alers, friend of Sara & Peter Mullarkey  
Beth Barnett, daughter of Carolyn & Eric Biedermann  
Erin Slocum, daughter of Patty & Don Heyse

**To all who gather:** We are Reconciling in Christ, which means we strive to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and to work for racial equity and to commit to anti-racist work.

We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. God makes no distinction based on race; ethnicity; immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental circumstances; or other life circumstances. God loves and welcomes all people. Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

*From Pastor Rick:* This community affirms its welcome by accepting me in this place. Diagnosed with Huntington's (HD), my progressing symptoms and neurodiversity are displayed publicly. The uncontrolled movements (chorea) may limit my functionality, or appear in other ways; yet, it is an opportunity to learn and love alongside one another. HD is part of me, but I am not defined by the diagnosis. As for all of us, I am defined as child of God.

**Guests and Visitors:** All are invited to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion (gluten free wafers and juice are available). Your offering is your presence in worship. Please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate as you leave. Don't forget your 'Sweet Treat' plate from the welcome desk!

**Worship Note:** The red hymnal *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) page numbers are found in the front while song numbers are in the back. If you have any questions about worship or Trinity, our clergy or welcome table hosts are happy to help.

**Parents and Caregivers:** God's children of all ages are welcome in worship. If helpful, please use the Family Break Room outside the worship space or a "Worship Activity Bag" - available near the welcome table.

**Special needs:** Hearing-assistance devices are available during our services. Holy Communion can also be brought to the seats of those who are unable to come forward. Our Welcome Table Hosts can help with any of these special needs.



### In Ministry Today

**Presiding:** Rev. Rich Fennig  
**Preacher & Worship Assistant:** Vicki Volbrecht  
**Communion Prep:**  
**Welcome Table Host:** Ron & Bonnie Bend  
**Fellowship Host:** Ron & Bonnie Bend  
**Prayer Writer:** Ronda Simmons  
**Bread Baker:** Dan Merz  
**Flower Arrangement:** Volunteers from  
St Paul's Episcopal

### Trinity's Clergy Leader:

Pastor Rick Reiten

### Trinity's Staff:

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Carrie Hansen     | <b>Music Coord. &amp; Organist</b>                           |
| Tessa Espinosa    | <b>Chancel Choir Director</b>                                |
| Clinton Ellerbe   | <b>Saturday Worship Leader</b>                               |
| Brenda Harju      | <b>TLC Preschool Director</b>                                |
| Brenda Moore      | <b>Financial Manager</b>                                     |
| Deana Andrist     | <b>Office Administrator</b>                                  |
| Amanda Backsen    | <b>Director of Communications<br/>&amp; Volunteer Coord.</b> |
| Claire Pickerel   | <b>AV Technician</b>   |
| Jennifer Reeve    | <b>Shared Children's Minister</b>                            |
| Tiffany Klijewski | <b>Nursery Coord.</b>  |
| Zoe Klamann       | <b>Shared Nursery Attendant</b>                              |

*\*Staff Emails are available on our website\**

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:

**Monday (September 1) Labor Day**  
Offices Closed

**Tuesday (September 2)**  
**7:30a Men's Breakfast @ Breakfast Club**  
5:30p Soc/Eco Justice-Room 2/Zoom  
6:15p 301FP Soc/Eco Justice-Room 2/Zoom

**Wednesday (September 3)**  
9-2p TLC Preschool  
6:30p Chancel Choir

**Thursday (September 4)**  
9a Bible Study-Room 2  
11a 301FP Clergy Mtg-Fireside

**Friday (September 5)**  
9-2p TLC Preschool  
10 am Quilting Group

**Saturday (September 6)**  
5 pm Worship

**Sunday (September 7) Rally Day!**  
**Stewardship campaign begins!**  
9a Adult Forum-Room 2  
9a Confirmation-Room 8  
9a Sunday School-Room 3  
10:30 am Worship  
11:30 am Fellowship

### Coming Up:

**Sunday, September 14 @ 3pm**  
Free Organ Concert showcasing our  
301 Musicians!

**Saturday, September 27**  
October Fest from 6-9 for Habitat for Humanity

## **Trinity Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.**

Trinity Lutheran – ELCA is a welcoming and inclusive faith community.

We are Reconciling in Christ, which means we strive to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; and to work for racial equity and to commit to anti-racist work.

We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. God makes no distinction based on race; ethnicity; immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental circumstances; or other life circumstances. God loves and welcomes all people.

Therefore, we welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

So, how can you learn more about Trinity?

Visit our website at [www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org)

Consider joining us for worship or one of our ministry events.

Contact one of our clergy for a chat.

We believe we are not a complete community, and that God is calling new people to join us and to find their place at Trinity.

We invite you join us on the journey of faith!

Saturdays at 5p.m. (Livestreamed & Recorded for Viewing)

Sundays 10:30 a.m. (Livestreamed & Recorded for Viewing)

**Trinity is a welcoming faith community living together in God's love to share the joy of Jesus Christ.**

### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

301 E. Stuart St., Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970) 482-1226

Website: [www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org) email: [office@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:office@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**TLC Preschool - 221-9852**



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Liturgy: "Liturgies from Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World, 2011"